

The Federal Communications Commission

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

RICHARD & RITA MAU 1780 E. Algonquin Road Des Plaines, IL
60016 February 17, 2005

Our household is a low volume phone user. I urge you to reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund. A flat fee structure in an industry/service as phone service is basically unfair such as a flat income tax of \$20,000 per household would be. The multitude of low-volume users would be subsidizing high volume users such as those who do make significant incomes from phone service use. I am concerned that this proposal could make my current service or the service to many others unaffordable as well.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. With a plan such as this, low-volume and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as and greatly subsidize high-volume residential and business customers. This is an unfair and regressive form of taxation. One could compare it to a person who drives a light and low mileage vehicle paying the same amount of fuel tax for roads as a heavy commercial and very high mileage vehicle.

I use my home and wireless phones for safety, security and convenience. It is not proper to cause a loss of these benefits for the benefit of businesses who make extensive use for convenience and as a source of significant income. If I want to support them, I will purchase their products and pay the fair price for those products. That is how our economy is structured to work. The flat fee proposal is counter to all economic principals of our society, business and industry.

I urge you to reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee.

Thank you for considering my request as one of tens of millions of phone users in the same category.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Mau

Sincerely,

Richard Mau
1780 E. Algonquin Rd.
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Des Plaines, Illinois 60016-6694